Millennial Star

Vol. 104, No. 23

Thursday, June 4, 1942

POETRY

JERUSALEM.

Fallen is thy throne, O Israel! silence is o'er thy plains!
Thy dwellings all lie desolate, thy children weep in chains.
Where are the dews that feed thee on Etham's barren shore?
That fire from heaven, which led thee, now lights thy path no more!

Lord! Thou didst love Jerusalem; once she was all Thine own:
Her love Thy fairest heritage, her power Thy Glory's throne;
Till evil came, and blighted Thy long-loved olive-tree,
And Salem's shrines were lighted for other gods than Thee.

They sank the star of Solyma; then passed her glory's day.
Like heath that, in the wilderness, the light wind whirls away.
Silent and waste her bowers, where once the mighty trod;
And sunk those guilty towers, where Baal reigned as God.

"Go", said the Lord, "ye conquerors! steep in her blood your swords,
And raze to earth her battlements, for they are not the Lord's!
Till Zion's mournful daughter o'er kindred bones shall tread,
And Hinnom's vale of slaughter shall hide but half her dead."

But soon shall other pictured scenes in brighter vision rise,
When Zion's sun shall sevenfold shine on all her mourner's eyes;
And, on her mountains beauteous, stand messengers of peace;
"Salvation by the Lord's right hand!" they shout and never cease.

—Thomas Moore.

A THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:

He is not only idle who does nothing, but
he is idle who might be better employed.

—Socrates.

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS'

MILLENNIAL STAR

ESTABLISHED IN 1840

Vol. 104, No. 23 Thursday, June 4, 1942 Price 2½d.

The "Millennial Star" is published weekly by the British Mission of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Subscription price: 2s. 6d. for three months; 5s. for six months; 7s. 6d. for nine months; and 10s. per year.

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THE WORD AND WILL OF THE LORD GIVEN THROUGH BRIGHAM YOUNG JANUARY 14th, 1847:

And if any man shall seek to build up himself, and seeketh not my counsel, he shall have no power, and his folly shall be made manifest.—Doctrine and Covenants 136: 19.

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FIND THE CHEERFUL MAN, AND I WILL SHOW YOU A MAN WHO WILL ATTEMPT THE IMPOSSIBLE, AND DO IT; WHO NEVER KNOWS WHEN HE IS BEATEN, AND NEVER IS; WHO LEADS THE FORLORN HOPE, TILL IT BECOMES THE FOREGONE SUCCESS. SUCH MEN ARE THE MAINSPRINGS OF THE WORLD'S PROGRESS. —Strickland Peating.

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THIS WEEK'S COVER

BRIGHAM YOUNG, second leader of the Restored Church of Christ, was born June 1st, 1801. A man of courage, of wisdom, fearless in his defence of the Truth, a great leader and pioneer-coloniser, he has been dubbed infamous by the ignorant, but by the thoughtful he has been acknowledged to be one of the greatest men the world has yet known. Of him it may be said: "HE WAS A MAN!" Slated though his name has been, it will ring forever throughout the mansions of Eternity as one who fulfilled his part in the Lord's Great Plan.

A Century Of Achievement

By Sister Amy Brown Lyman
(Relief Society General President)

THE following address, a message to the Relief Society membership of the Church, was given as a part of the morning broadcast over KSL, inaugurating the day of the Centennial Observance, Tuesday, March 17th, 1942.

Sister Amy Brown Lyman

ON this great and glorious day, the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of Relief Society, I feel greatly honoured as President of the organization to have the privilege of addressing by radio the members of the Society. One hundred years it is, ten decades, a century since a group of eighteen women, in a room on the second floor of a modest building on the bank of the Mississippi River, were privileged to begin a work which had for its object the welfare of humanity, including the educational and spiritual development of its members.

At this major milepost in our history we might ask ourselves if we have accomplished the objectives for which we were organized, if we have fulfilled our assignment satisfactorily. I feel safe in saying that in a very large measure we have; that the past is secure in honour and service; and our future will also be secure if we continue to live up to our heritage of the past. I feel sure that the great founder of this organization, were he here today, would look with real satisfaction and pride upon our labours and achievements.

We are conscious of the fact that this eventful day is being observed in some manner in every one of the more than 2,000 local units of the Society, wherever located, whether in one of the five great geographic divisions of the two hemispheres or in the islands of the sea. Even though the shadows of war hang heavy over many lands, this hundredth birthday is not

forgotten. It is being observed by ceremonials which vary according to choice and circumstance, but which nevertheless are bound together by common elements, such as recitals of achievements including our new membership record, songs of praise, prayers of gratitude, and rejoicing in the lofty mission of the Society, in its ideals, in its accomplishments, and in the opportunities it has given its members.

An important feature of the observance of this centennial throughout the Church is the planting of Relief Society centennial trees, which will be suitably marked, carefully nurtured and preserved, to be loved and cherished by future generations of Relief Society women, symbolic of the strength and steady growth of the organization.

The postponement of the great central centennial celebration, which was to have been a climax to all other activities in our centennial year, was naturally a great disappointment to the women of the Church, many of whom had saved and planned for months to be in attendance. The postponement of stake programmes and pageants, which had been arranged to be held in some stages on this day in lieu of ward observances, has also caused disappointment.

While these postponements were a real sacrifice to us, still we recognise the emergent situation with which we are faced in connection with this tragic war, and make the sacrifice willingly.

We are pleased, however, that plans are going forward for the erection of the beautiful campanile or bell tower on Temple Square in Salt Lake City to house the famous Nauvoo Bell. Relief Society women everywhere are making contributions to assist in the erection of this graceful memorial—Relief Society's centennial gift to the Church.

It is with great pleasure that I express my sincere and unbounded gratitude and appreciation for the achievement of our goal of 100,000 members on our 100th birthday. Not only have we achieved this goal, but we have exceeded it by 13,000. The General Board is grateful for the efforts which have been put forth by officers and workers throughout the Society to bring about this wonderful result. We welcome our 38,000 new members with all our heart and with open arms. We know they are a great asset to the Society, that they bring new interests and new enthusiam to us, and that they will receive the same enjoyment and benefits experienced by unnumbered thousands of women who have been affiliated with the Society during its hundred years.

During the past year our members have been looking back over the history and background of the Relief Society. The files of the General Board and of the Historian's Office, and the records of stakes and wards have been searched for information. There has probably never been a time before in the history of the Society when so much research work has been done by so many people. And we have not sought in vain. Our minds have been enlightened, our knowledge enriched, our hearts have rejoiced and our faith strengthened by what we have learned. The record work of the Society and its

members is one of self-sacrifice to high ideals, of devotion to lofty principles, and of faith and a testimony in the Gospel of the Master.

We have become better acquainted with the activities in Nauvoo, where almost every type of welfare work was carried on—the caring for the sick and needy, the comforting of the sorrowing, and the sustaining of one another in times of persecution and tragedy.

We have learned of the work of the women of Nauvoo as

A Blessing

PRESIDENT HEBER J. GRANT'S MESSAGE TO RELIEF SOCIETY

President Grant

MY heart is full of gratitude to my Heavenly Father for the faithfulness and devotion of the Sisters of Relief Society who are doing and who always have done so must for the comfort and encouragement of those less fortunate than themselves. I commend yoyu, my dear Sisters, for your faithfulness.

We are living in anxious and troubled days. Forces are abroad in the earth which threaten to destroy the peace of the world and to overthrow our form of government. Many of your sons have been called into the service of their country. This is a matter of deep concern, of course, to mothers and to all of us. It is necessary that the people turn to the Lord, that they seek Him in deep humility, that they keep His commandments, and that they serve Him in spirit and in truth, with the assurance that He will not forsake the righteous nor turn away those who seek Him.

May our Heavenly Father bless the mothers in Israel and all who are engaged in building up the kingdom of God on the earth. May the peace and blessings of heaven abide in your homes and be upon you and your loved ones now and forever.

they became the women of the Plains, many of them walking much of the way to the West; of their courage, faith, and valour in the face of illness, lack of sufficient food and warm clothing, and danger from hostile Indians and wild animals.

We have learned of their work as Pioneers in the West where, side by side with men, they helped to blaze trails and lay the foundation for an empire; where they helped to build their

(Continued on page 368)

Our Missionaries' Page

REVIEW OF THE WEEKLY MISSIONARY REPORTS

HOURS SPENT TRACTING. At least two hours should be given daily to tracting. The most effective way of preaching the restored Gospel is by tracting. We are surrounded by people living in houses, mansions, and even palaces, working in factories, workshops, yards and offices. **Go to them. Do not miss any one. Do not pass any by.** The Lord commands His disciples of the latter-days:

> **"Go forth in the power of my spirit, preaching my gospel, two by two, in my name, declaring my word like unto angels of God. Go forth among the Gentiles for the last time."**—Doctrine and Covenants.

LITERATURE. We have ample supplies at the present time to meet the needs of every Missionary, with the exception of TRACTS. These will be available within one week, when supplies will be sent to all our Missionaries. Use pamphlets, "Stars," and books while tracting. Bear your testimony; deliver the message of the restored Gospel; have courage, be fearless of what men may say to you. Be like the angels of heaven, clothed with power and authority. **Go forward, and nothing can stay you. You shall be guided in the fulfilment of your sacred duties.**

GIVE AT LEAST TWO HOURS A DAY TO TRACTING.

THE "MILLENNIAL STAR." In accordance with Church order and proceedure, every Missionary is expected to sell his literature, and in only exceptional circumstances give it away (tracts excepted). The "Millennial Star" should be the chief objective. The special facilities offered our Missionaries have been received with enthusiasm.

Elders L. Moore and W. Buchanan, labouring in the Nottingham District, have written in:

> **"Please send us 100 'Stars' each weekly."**

These brethren are to be commended for their efforts and success. Other Missionaries are not far behind them. **We hope that all our Missionaries will make the "Star" their chief objective while tracting.**

Reports from our Home Missionaries:

"We are having more activity amongst our Home Missionaries Building up a chorus and organizing visits and tracting, and our Home Missionary meetings are very instructive"—Sister E. E. Bowen, Hanham, Bristol.

"Three hours in one gospel conversation with four non-members. Very interested in pre-existence; also two 'Stars' given."—Sister E. M. Beeching, London.

Fellow Missionaries, give heed to the Word of the Lord:

> **"For verily the voice of the Lord is unto all men, and there is none to escape; and there is no eye that shall not see; neither ear that shall not hear, neither heart that shall not be penetrated."**—D. and C. 1: 2, 11.

—A. K. A.

L.D.S. Pen Friendship League

AS days and weeks pass by the number of our Pen Friends increases. Some of them have found great interest in writing letters and receiving replies. Intelligent, ideal and courteous friendship is being built up among many of our L.D.S. boys and girls. In the army they have time and opportunity to write of their experiences among new associations in the midst of changing conditions and circumstances, their outlook on life is changing, some of them will return home different boys—nay men—mature and experienced in the ways of life.

The ideology of Latter-day Saints is creating leaders out of our boys and girls. Their purity of life, conduct and faith is being investigated by those who have the honour to live and work with them. We are proud of them—of those who are faithful and true to the principles of our beautiful religion.

PEN FRIENDS, one request I wish to make to you: will you send me a letter from time to time and tell of your life and experiences? **During this war many of you have had some unusual faith promoting incidents. Will you tell me about them? They will be published to help your fellow members to appreciate the blessings and mercy of our Heavenly Father. Be sure to tell me all the details.**

We welcome some more Pen Friends:

5249464 Pte. F. Wood, c/o British Mission Headquarters, 149 Nightingale Lane, Balham, London, S.W.12.

1357753 H. D. Crawford, c/o British Mission Headquarters, 149 Nightingale Lane, Balham, London, S.W.12.

Miss Beatrice Howells, 437243, Fountain Courts, Buckingham Palace Road, Victoria, London, S.W.1.

BE SURE TO WRITE TO THEM.

LATTER-DAY SAINTS — YOUNG PEOPLE —
GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER.

—President A. K. Anastasiou.

★

IF you succeed in life, you must do it in spite of the efforts of others to pull you down. There is nothing in the idea that people are willing to help those who help themselves. People are willing to help a man who can't help himself, but as soon as a man is able to help himself, and does it, they join in making his life as uncomfortable as possible. —E. W. Howe.

Hebrew Traits In The Book Of Mormon

By Elder Cecil E. McGavin

Author of "Mormonism and Masonry" and "Cumorah's Gold Bible."

MEMBERS of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints regard the Bible as the word of God. Though they have other sacred books, the Bible heads the list of inspired scriptures. These other sacred writings testify of the divine origin and sanctity of the Bible. It is certainly not our purpose to belittle or discredit the Holy Bible when we point out that certain features in the Book of Mormon which the critics have objected to are also to be found in the Bible. In this manner we hope to show that the Book of Mormon was indeed based upon an ancient Hebrew text.

In our last article we called attention to a few Hebraic features of the Book of Mormon. Let us consider the subject further.

The characteristics of the Book which have been ridiculed most by the critics, are those sections which are strictly a literal translation of Hebrew idioms, all of which were in popular usage among the Jews six centuries before the birth of Christ; yet are not good literary construction in English. Almost every part of the Book which is said to exhibit errors of grammar, provincialisms and "Smithisms," is but a literal translation of a Hebrew text.

PART VIII OF
"A MARVELLOUS WORK
AND A WONDER"

ANOTHER TRAIT

Another Hebrew trait common in the Bible and the Book of Mormon is the periodic sentence. This type of construction is an emphatic form of complex or compound sentence where the main clause is placed last. In Exodus 20: 7, we find a good example of this popular construction: "Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house; thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife." The same kind of construction occurs often in the Book of Mormon. We quote one example from Alma 7: 27, "And now may the peace of God rest upon you, and upon your houses and lands, and upon your flocks, and herds, and all that you possess; your women and your children."

Since the young and unschooled translator of the Nephite Record was not familiar with the customs of the ancient Hebrews, is it not strange that he should repeat so many of them in this modern book which claims to be a translation made from an ancient text, the construction of which was certainly influenced by the literary standards of the Jews many years before the birth of Christ?

This book has been criticized because certain preachers and writers allow a break to occur in their thoughts, thus halting, hesitating and going far afield before they return to their central theme and continue to a logical conclusion the proposition they started to explain.

The Latter-Day Saints' "Millennial Star"

THURSDAY, JUNE 4, 1942

EDITORIAL

Human Happiness

IF this is the work of God, let us understand its beauty and glory. I do not say that all are like myself; but from the day I commenced preaching the Gospel to this present moment, I never had a feeling in my heart to occupy much time in preaching hell to the people or in telling them much about being damned. There are the kingdoms and worlds which God has prepared, and which are waiting for the just. There are more beauty, glory, excellency, knowledge, power, and heavenly things than I have time to talk about, without spending my time in talking about the hells prepared for the damned. I have not time to talk much about them.

It does make the Devil mad. That is true, it makes him mad that he cannot afflict this people so as to make them have a sad countenance.

Men and women, for slight causes, make shipwreck of faith, lose the spirit of the Gospel, losing the object for which they left their homes and their friends. We are all searching for happiness; we hope for it, we think we live for it, it is our aim in this life. But do we live so as to enjoy the happiness we so much desire? There is only one way for Latter-day Saints to be happy, which is simply to live their religion, or in other words believe the Gospel of Jesus Christ in every part, obeying the gospel of liberty with full purpose of heart, which sets us free indeed. If we will, as a community, obey the law of God, and comply with the ordinances of salvation, then we may expect to find the happiness we so much desire, but if we do not pursue this course, we cannot enjoy the unalloyed happiness whch is to be found in the Gospel. To profess to be a Saint, and not enjoy the spirit of it, tries every fibre of the heart, and is one of the most painful experiences that man can suffer.

Is there anything immoral in recreation? If I see my sons and daughters enjoying themselves, chatting, visiting, riding, going to a party or a dance, is there anything immoral in that? I watch very closely, and if I hear a word, see a look, or a sneer at divine things or anything derogatory to a good moral character, I feel it in a moment and I say, "If you follow that it will not lead to good, it is evil; it will not lead to the fountain of life and intelligence; follow, only, the path that leads to life everlasting."

We say to everybody, exercise yourselves, provide innocent amusement for the youth, attract the minds of the children, and get the upper hand of them and be on the lead. I see mothers right among us whose course is very imprudent with their children. You ought always to take the lead of your children in their minds and affections. Instead of being

behind with the whip, always be in advance, then you can say "Come along," and you will have no use for the rod. They will delight to follow you, and will like your words and ways, because you are always comforting them and giving them pleasure and enjoyment. If they get a little naughty, stop them when they have gone far enough. We say to the brethren, humour your wives and children as far as you can, but when they transgress, and transcend certain bounds, we want them to stop. If you are in the lead they will stop, they cannot run over you; but if you are behind they will run away from you. Husbands, always be in advance of your wives, and then if they undertake to do something that is very displeasing to you, they will run right against you, and then stop and sit down because they can't go any further. Do you know how to do this? "No," says one, "I don't now that I do." Well, then, learn by searching after truth, according to the revelations given in this book. Search after truth in all good books, and learn the wisdom of the world, and the wisdom of God, and put them together, and you will be able to benefit yourselves.

Our work, our every day labour, our whole lives are within the scope of our religion. This is what we believe and what we try to practice. Yet the Lord permits a great many things that He never commands. I have frequently heard my brethren in the Christian world make remarks about the impropriety of indulging in pastimes and amusements. The Lord never commanded me to dance, yet I have danced: you all know it, for my life is before the world. Yet while the Lord has never commanded me to do it, He has permitted it. I do not know that He ever commanded the boys to go and play at ball, yet He permits it. I am not aware that He ever commanded us to build a theatre, but He has permitted it, and I can give the reason why. Recreation and diversion are as necessary to our well being as the more serious pursuits of life. There is not a man in the world but what, if kept at any one branch of business or study, will become like a machine. Our pursuits should be so diversified as to develop every trait of character and diversity of talent. If you would develop every power and faculty possessed by your children, they must have the privilege of engaging in and enjoying a diversity of amusements and studies; to attain great excellence, however, they cannot all be kept to any one individual branch of study. I recollect once while in England, in the district of country called "Potteries," seeing a man pass along the street, his head, perhaps, within sixteen or eighteen inches of the ground. I inquired what occupation he had followed for a living, and learned that he had never done anything in his life but turn a tea cup, and he was then seventy-four years of age. How do we know but what, if he had had the privilege, he would have made a statesman or a fine physician, an excellent mechanic or a good judge? We cannot tell. This shows the necessity of the mind being kept active and having the opportunity of indulging in every exercise it can enjoy in order to attain to a full development of its powers.

—From the Discourses of Brigham Young.

INDICATES ALERTNESS

When this path of deviation is followed, it is an indication of a fertile imagination and an alert mind, the speaker's brain being flooded with illustrations faster than he can express them in their logical order. It is also an indication of extemporaneous speaking or hasty writing, rather than a carefully planned sermon.

Typical of the criticism of this feature of the book, I quote from the Rev. M. T. Lamb: "The angel had never studied English grammar carefully. He often takes back what he has said, or changes the sense so that the inquiry forces itself upon the reader, 'Which portion of the sentence is inspired of God?' " —M. T. Lamb, "The Mormons and Their Bible," p. 48.

This peculiar construction occurs often in the Book of Mormon, yet it is purely a Hebrew trait which was perpetuated by Jewish writers after the time of Christ. No Nephite historian, prophet or scribe ever employed this halting method of exposition more than did the Apostle Paul.

THOUGHT RESUMED

In the first chapter of Romans he pauses to explain the word "Gospel." He then devotes two verses to a discussion of the Son of God before returning to his general theme. In the fifth chapter of Romans, verse twelve, he alludes to the fall of Adam, then inserts five long verses about condemnation, judgment and wilful sin. In verse fifteen his former thought is resumed, yet not until we reach verse eighteen do we find the thought first expressed in verse twelve completed.

In no place in the Book of Mormon is the chain of thought broken, the line of reasoning interrupted, the completed explanation delayed, more than in the writing of Paul, yet he is regarded throughout Christendom as one of the greatest evangelists of the early Church.

It is surprising that the features of the book that Christian ministers have objected to the most are the ones that are pure Hebrew traits. They were woefully ignorant of early Hebrew literary standards, or maliciously intent upon prejudicing the minds of readers when they raised their voices strongest against the sections that are literal translations from the Hebrew.

The first line in the book furnishes evidence that it was written by an Israelite, "I, Nephi, having been born of goodly parents," it begins. Few people have shown the respect for parents that the Israelites have shown. The first verse also reveals an interest in genealogical records, as does the whole book, yet no people have ever guarded their genealogical treasures with more painstaking accuracy and sacred devotion than have the children of Israel.

The Nephites followed the Jewish custom of keeping their women in the background. The names of only six women are to be found in the Book of Mormon.

EXPRESS EMOTION

In both books the Hebraic use of the word "all" is used,

though the words "some" or "most" would be more truthful. In Exodus 9: 6 we read that, "all the cattle of Egypt died." In Matthew 3: 5 we are told that, "then went out to him Jerusalem and all Judea." This same Hebrew trait permeates the Book of Mormon.

Some critics have said that the greatest blunder in the Book of Mormon is Nephi's statement that "a more history part are written upon mine other plates."—II Nephi 4: 40. Instead of Joseph Smith's limited education being blamed for this expression, we are obliged to say that it is simply a literal translation from the Nephite Record. It was common for Hebrew writers and prophets to use substantives for adjectives. Thus such expressions as a "more history part" instead of "more historical part," as we would say it is, is as distinctly a Hebrew trait as the trite expression "and it came to pass." Other examples in the Book of Mormon of this construction are these: "curse of the land," "words of plainness," "swords of justice."

POPULAR POETRY

The presence in the Book of Mormon of perfect examples of Hebrew poetry is a striking coincidence. The most popular form of Hebrew poetry was the couplet of two lines in which the second line repeated, reinforced or completed the thought of the first. This synonymous parellelism is common to both books. In Numbers 23: 8 we find a good example.

Two years ago a book came from the press and soon went through several editions. It was said in that volume that Joseph Smith and his family were Quakers and in their daily conversation used such words as "yea," "nay," "thee," "thou," and other words that reveal a Hebrew text back of the Book of Mormon. The majesty and beauty of the numerous examples of Hebrew poetry in the Book of Mormon cannot be dimmed or concealed by such erroneous explanations.

The Bible will be searched in vain for better examples of Hebrew poetry than is found in II Nephi 4: 16-35, which is but a sample of the extensive poetic constructions in the Nephite scriptures.

USED SHORT WORDS

The literary style of the Book of Mormon, which at times rises to sublime heights of majesty and beauty, is not the style of Joseph Smith. Except as a translator he never made the slightest effort to imitate the subtle style of the Hebrew poets. His was the rough, halting, unpolished style of a self-taught man. His words were short ones; his sentences simple, with no attempt to balance or parallel them as was done so effectively in the Book of Mormon.

Critics have called the peculiar constructions in this book "the human side of the Book of Mormon," whereas they are simply the Hebrew side of the Book of Mormon.

Every page of this great masterpiece bears evidence that Joseph Smith wrote better than he knew when he translated the characters upon the gold plates. After more than a century this great Book continues to be "A Marvellous Work and a Wonder."

Leeds District Annual Conference

Held Saturday and Sunday, May 23rd and 24th,

At our Chapel, Woodland Street, Bradford.

On Saturday, at 5.0 p.m., the Mission Presidency, represented by President A. K. Anastasiou and 2nd Counsellor James R. Cunningham, met with the District and Branch Presidencies to receive the reports for the Branches and present the Mission Progress Programme. From the reports given it was evident that the Branches of the Leeds District are showing improvement in tithing, attendance and general condition, with attending manifestations of healing and protection in the midst of danger. The reports were most encouraging and helpful. The meeting closed at 6.45 p.m.

At 6.30 p.m. Sister Hilda Woodford presented a programme of Tabernacle Choir records which were very much enjoyed. After a slight interval, the programme continued with the presentation of a recorded dramatized evrsion of "The Fulness of Times," followed by a 1-Act play, "The Conversion." Approximately 45 people attended on Saturday. It has been again observed that these records do leave a very fine impression upon the minds of the listeners.

The Sunday Programme began with a Testimony Meeting at 10.15 a.m., conducted by Elder John Harrison, First Counsellor in the District Presidency. The Mission Presidency were in attendance. After the preliminary exercises and the Sacrament, 15 members bore very inspiriug testimonies, some of them relating incidents of healing, following the laying on of hands.

The First General Session commenced at 11.0 a.m., conducted by Elder George H. Smith, Second Counsellor in the District Presidency, who introduced the theme of the Conference, "Man's Pre-existent, Present and Future Life." The Sunday School group under the direction of Brother G. H. Fearnley, presented a playlet entitled "Life's Meaning," illustrating Pre-existence, Earth and Future Life. Many hearts were touched to the point of tears by the able portrayal of the grand truths of the Restored Gospel. Those taking part were as follows: Brothers Tom Elkington, G. Marston, A. Firth, L. Firth, and M. Fearnley; Sisters H. Firth, C. Evans, E. Coates, M. Tidswell, I. Firth, D Firth, B. Elkington and M. Walker. Elder James R. Cunningham of the Mission Presidency was the concluding speaker, on the subject of "Pre-existent Life," and the grand opportunities given to us for development in these mortal bodies, being able to choose good from evil. Attendance 75.

Under the able supervision of the Relief Society, tables were laid and refreshments provided for the visiting authorities and others, which was very much enjoyed and appreciated.

At 1.0 p.m. Mission, District and Branch Presidencies continued their Mission Progress Programme meeting, when further reports were received and counsel and advice given on many vital problems affecting the District, the work of the Auxiliaries, Branches, Home Missionaries and general condition of members. The meeting closed at 2.15 p.m.

The second session convened at 2.30 p.m., conducted by Elder John Harrison, First Counsellor in the District Presidency. After the opening exercises, the Sisters of the Relief Societies joined together in singing "The Song of Triumph," under the direction of Relief Society Supervisor Kitty Laycock. The song was rendered very beautifully. Elder John Harrison was the first speaker, on the subject of "The Keys of Happiness, Being Obedience to the Laws of Baptism, Marriage, etc." District Clerk Elder George H. Smith presented the General, Mission and District authorities for the sustaining vote of the congregation. The vote was unanimous. A youth, Noel Moore, rendered a solo entitled "On Wings of Song." The closing speaker was Elder George H. Bailey, First Counsellor in the Mission Presidency, who spoke on the subject of "Proof of Pre-existence and the Plan of Living as laid down by the Lord." At 4.15 p.m. the members separated into two groups, under the direction of President and Sister Anastasiou, respectively. 1 High Priest, 19 Elders, 1 Teacher and 5 Deacons —a total of 25—were present at the Priesthood session. President A. K. Anastasiou addressed the Priesthood gathering on the sacredness of our

Priesthood ordinations, the witness we bear whilst partaking of the sacred emblems, and on the subject of responsibility of Church Government resting upon those who have been appointed to various offices. It was ascertained, on a show of hands, that all Priesthood, with only one exception, were full tithe payers, similarly, with only two exceptions, in the observance of the Word of Wisdom. Helpful counsel and advice was given by Elders George H. Bailey and James R. Cunningham to the problems of two brethren to help them to live the principles of the Gospel fully. The meeting closed at 5.25 p.m. In the ladies' section, presided over by Sister Marie W. Anastasiou, President of the British Mission Relief Society, and conducted by Sister Kitty Laycock, District Relief Society Supervisor, reports were received from Bradford, Clayton, Batley and Leeds Relief Societies. Various questions and problems were dealt with and counsel and advice given by Sister Anastasiou, who finally bore her own testimony as to the divinity of this work. 63 in attendance. Total attendance at the afternoon session, 109.

Photographs were taken of the Priesthood group of the Leeds District.

The final session convened at 6.5 p.m., conducted by District President Elder Herbert Walker, who gave a report of the District and spoke on the theme of the Conference. Sister Hilda Woodford of the British Mission Genealogical Board spoke on the development of the Genealogical work in the British Mission and urged the Saints to take part in this great project of Salvation for the Dead. She stressed the old biblical quotation, "The night cometh when no man can work." The song, "The Spirit of God like a Fire is Burning," was rendered by the congregation. Sister Marie W. Anastasiou was the next speaker, on the theme of "Latter-day Prophet." President Fred Laycock of the Leeds Branch renedred a solo. Elder George H. Bailey was again called to speak for a short period, and related evidences and experiences in his own life and that of his family of survival after death. The final speaker was Mission President A. K. Anastasiou, who dealt with the topic of the "Everlasting Covenant." The President pointed out the necessity to obey all the laws restored through the Prophet Joseph Smith to enable us to rise in the First Resurrection. H clearly delineated what we must do to inherit the fulness of joy in this life and in the life to come. The theme of the Conference was emphasised and encouragement given to every Saint to prepare for the great events which would take place in the very near future. The Conference closed with the hymn "Before Thee Lord I Bow my Head." Benediction by Elder Alfred Higgins.

Immediately after the close of the meeting, President A. K. Anastasiou made an appeal for Home Missionaries to come forward and help press on in the work of the Lord. 165 were in attendance at the final session.

The Saints dispersed to their homes after a most glorious and soul satisfying series of meetings, feeling renewed and revitalised and encouraged to take up the tasks of building up the Church in the Leeds District.

On Monday morning the Mission Presidency met in a Meeting which lasted until 2.0 p.m.

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NOTTINGHAM DISTRICT CONFERENCE SCHEDULED.

NOTTINGHAM District Conference will be held at the **L.D.S. Hall, All Saints' Open, Great Central Street, Leicester,** on Saturday, June 13th, and at **Co-Operative Hall, Belgrave Gate, Leicester,** on Sunday, June 14th.

Saturday programme: 5.30 p.m., Special Meeting with District and Branch Presidencies; 6.45 p.m. to 8.30 p.m., Tabernacle Organ and Choir Records; 1-act play, "Conversion"; dramatic reproduction on records. "The Fulness of Times"; Sister H. Woodford on Genealogical problems; social contact, etc.

Sunday programme: 10 a.m., Testimony-Sacrament Meeting, 11 a.m., 1st session, with an half-hour programme presented by Sunday School children; 2.30 p.m., 2nd session; 3.45 p.m., separate sessions for Priesthood and Ladies; 6 p.m., the final session.

District Activities

Grimsby

Grimsby Branch Relief Society held its Centennial Social on March 25th. President Eric Thorp gave a lantern slide lecture, "Down Pioneer Trails," after which the 25 Saints and friends present enjoyed games and dancing. Refreshments were served at moderate prices, and a most enjoyable evening was spent.

Mother's Day programme was carried out in the Lowestoft Branch on Sunday, 10th May. Talks were given by the fathers present, and each mother was presented with a pot of pansies. 29 members and friends were present.

Newcastle

Commencing at 4.15 p.m., a Home Missionary Social was held in the West Hartlepool Chapel on Saturday, April 11th. Elder Stanley Short of the District Presidency was in charge of the occasion. The first part of the social was devoted to entertaining the children. A very much appreciated tea was served, after which Brother Short conducted games for the adults. After various entertaining items had been rendered by Sisters Featherstone, Rosalie Walker, Hazel Oates, Marjorie Cuthbertson, and Brother Douglas Fetherstone, a short time was occupied in community singing, culminating in everybody joining in the singing of "Auld Lang Syne."

The Home Missionary Conference followed on Sunday, April 12th, in the Sunderland Branch Chapel. Elder Stanley Short conducted the morning session, commencing at 11.0 a.m. During this session all the Saints were given the opportunity to bear their testimonies to the truthfulness of the Gospel. Attendance 38.

Speakers at the afternoon session, commencing at 2 p.m., were Elder S. Featherstone, Sister G. Quayle, and Lady Missionary Sister Astin. The meeting was conducted by Elder G. Wappett and a violin solo was contributed by Sister Rosalie Walker. Attendance 63.

Convening at 5.30 p.m., the evening session was conducted by District President F. W. Oates. Speakers were Lady Missionary Sister Lucy Ripley, Elder Stanley Short, and President F. W. Oates. A reading was given by Sister Margaret Walker, a solo by Sister Kathleen Featherstone, and a duet by Sisters Myrtle and Lilian Foster. An outstanding feature of this session was the singing of the "Home Missionary Song," words written by Sister Gladys Quayle of the Newcastle District, and sung to the tune of "Hark Listen to the Trumpeters." Attendance 58.

The interest in the Conference was greatly enhanced by the splendid printed programmes which were tastfully written and illustrated, and contained helpful quotations from the scriptures.

At the Sunderland Branch Primary meeting, held on Wednesday, April 15th, under the direction of Sister Gladys Quayle, a lantern lecture was given to the children by President F. W. Oates and Lady Missionary Sister Lucy Ripley. There was an attendance of 23, including Sister Ellen Oates, Primary Supervisor, and Sister Astin, Lady Missionary.

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DEATHS.

WALKER—Sister Clara Walker, for many years a faithful member of the Bradford Branch, died on April 16th, 1942. Funeral services were conducted by President T. Elkington. Speakers at the home were Brother Fred Bradbury and President Elkington, and at the graveside President Walker. The grave was dedicated by Elder John C. Harrison.

BLISS—Sister Bliss of Southend passed away on the 14th of April, 1942, after a very long illness.

WEBSTER—Brother T. Webster of the Preston Branch passed away on the 3rd of May, 1942, after a long illness. Funeral services were conducted by President P. L. Cookman, who also gave words of comfort, and later offered the prayer at the graveside. The hymn "O My Father" was sung at the graveside. A memorial service was held in the Preston Branch Chapel on Sunday, 10th May, conducted by President Cookman. A very fine spirit prevailed throughout.

GRAHAM—Sister Esther Graham, second oldest member of the Sunderland Branch, passed away on April 7th, three days before her eighty-fifth birthday. She had been a faithful member of the Branch for many years, and well remembered the days of persecution. President F. W. Oates conducted the funeral service, assisted by President Wm. Wright.

DISTON—Brother Ralph Diston, son of Sister Martha Diston of the Sunderland Branch, passed away on April 11th, after many years of suffering. He was 57 years of age.

A memorial service was held in the Sunderland Chapel on Sunday, April 19th, conducted by President Wm. Wright. Sister M. F. Maxwell and President F. W. Oates paid tribute to the Sister and Brother who had passed to higher service.

GREEN—News is received from Birmingham of the death of Brother Herbert Green, and also of his wife, Sister Lucy Green. Brother Herbert Green of the Handsworth Branch passed away on March 27th, 1942. He was survived by his wife, Sister Lucy Green, for five weeks. Sister Green died on May 1st, and was laid to rest on May 6th, 1942. Elder Charles Collins officiated on both occasions, at the Church service, which was held in Handsworth Branch Chapel. District President Norman Dunn dedicated the grave of the former, and Elder Geo. R. Grundy officiated at the graveside of the latter. Prayer was offered by Elder Andre C. Anastasiou, Jr. Interment took place at the Handsworth Cemetery.

McWILLIAM — Brother James McWilliam, the oldest member of the Liverpool Branch, died on May 10th, 1942. The funeral service was conducted by President Geo. Patey, who spoke for a while of the hope beyond the grave. Funeral hymns were sung at the graveside. The grave was dedicated by President Geo. Patey.

WHITFIELD—Brother John Teasdale Whitfield, member of the Grimsby Branch, died on May 10th and was buried on May 13th, 1942. District President Eric Thorp conducted the funeral service, and Elder A. H. Willmott dedicated the grave. Brother Whitfield was a President of the Grimsby Branch some years prior to his infirmity.

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PERSONALS.

GOUNDRY—The infant daughter of Sister and Brother Geo. A. Goundry, born 8th April, 1942, was blessed on Sunday, 26th April, and given the name of Floraine. The child's uncle, Elder James R. Cunningham, pronounced the blessing.

SHEARS—Ann Louise was the name given to the infant daughter of Sister May and Brother Frederick Shears, by President Thos. Rudd, on Sunday, April 26th.

WILLMOTT—The infant son of Sister Rachel Schmidt and Brother A. John Willmott, born on 6th April, 1942, was blessed in the North London Branch on Sunday, 3rd May, by his father, Elder A. John Willmott, and given the names of Heber John.

CLARKE—The daughter of Sister Grace Martha and Mr. S. B. Clarke, born 17th April, 1942, was also blessed in the North London Chapel on Sunday, 3rd May, by her grandfather, Elder A. James Willmott, and given the names of Maureen Grace.

CHALLIS—On Sunday, 3rd May, the son of Sister and Brother Wm. Challis was blessed by President Geo. E. Patey, and given the name of Sidney Rose

HILL—A son was born to Sister Rosina and Brother James P. Hill on April 10th, 1942. The child was blessed in the South London Branch on Sunday, 3rd May, by his father, and given the names of Michael Vincent.

CUNNINGHAM—A daughter was born to the wife of Elder James R. Cunningham of the Mission Presidency on May 5th, 1942. The child was blessed by her father in the South London Branch on Sunday, May 31st and given the names of Myrtle May.

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A CENTURY OF ACHIEVEMENT

(Continued from page 356)

own homes, plant and gather crops, fight crickets and kill snakes, where they wove and spun the cloth they used and withal reared large families. In the morning and evening these Pioneer families, who relied on their God for aid, knelt together and uttered prayers of faith, thanksgiving, and devotion, asking for protection and that their simple and most needed wants be satisfied.

We have been interested in the various phases of work they took up as circumstances became easier, such as the training of nurses and midwives, the manufacture of silk, the establishment of women's co-operative stores, the building of Relief Society halls for their meetings and of granaries for storing wheat, of their activities in movements for suffrage, for temperance and peace; and in later years the fostering of public health work, the development and advancement of their educational and social welfare programmes.

Missionary work has also had a warm place in their hearts. They have not only supported the work and contributed to it as mothers and sisters of missionaries, but have performed missions themselves. As wives of Mission Presidents they have presided over the women's work in all the Missions of the Church, in many countries. Before the war began, there were 36 Relief Society women presiding over the women's work in as many Missions of the Church, located all around the world.

In 1942, as we begin a new Relief Society century, in a year considered by many as the most critical ever known, we find the world full of tumult and trouble.

It is evident that people everywhere will have to make sacrifices the like and extent of which many have never dreamed, and that life will be different from what it has ever been before. In these trying times at hand Relief Society women will not be found wanting, and in the words of Pasteur, will "Never doubt but that knowledge and peace will triumph over ignorance and war."

Let us put our trust in the Lord. Let us this day re-dedicate ourselves to our own special work and mission, and to the advancement of the Gospel of our Lord and Master Jesus Christ.

VALIANT HEARTED.

(A CENTENNIAL TRIBUTE)

A leader stood with prophetic gaze
His mind raced far ahead
He saw the need in these "future days"
When love in the world seemed dead.

He gathered around him a valiant few
And taught them His wondrous plan
To minister love, and help imbue
To the hungered soul of man.

He joined valiant hearts in a worthy cause
This Prophet of latter-days.
A benevolent service, to fulfil God's laws
To teach the world better ways.

He organized this small but stalwart band
In the year eighteen forty and two,
With purpose noble, and aim so grand—
They had a great work to do.

Throughout the century—"One hundred years"
Sisters valiant have led the throng!
Midst depressions and fears—smiles and tears
NOW "One Hundred Thousand Strong"!

Strong in number and stronger in faith
Is ever our constant prayer
Assisting the Priesthood in all that He saith
Loving everyone—Everywhere!

With hate and envy—mid a sin sick world
Our mission is clearly outlined
More "Christ Like" love—Our banner unfurled
For that is what God has designed.

The aged, infirm and all we may bless
As we work in a valiant throng
To labour in love and righteousness
And this be Our Centennial Song!

"God bless and keep our armour bright
And sisters loyal and true
Reach ever upward—for the light
And try His works to do."

—Inez Robinson Preece.
March 17th, 1942.

Important Announcement

INDEXES of the "MILLENNIAL STAR" for the years 1939, 1940 and 1941 will shortly be available, and negotiations are in process to obtain a quotation for the binding of volumes for these years. Watch this space for more definite details concerning this soon.

Meanwhile, should you desire to obtain any back volumes, the following are in stock and can be supplied by the Circulation Department. Perhaps you would like to complete a collection, or maybe there is one particular volume you wish to possess. This comprises our complete stock. There can be no re-printing.

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